

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 OES-05 OFA-01 H-02 EB-07 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /033 W

----- 081462

R 311250Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2235

UNCLAS BRASILIA 9454

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS BR

SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN CATFISH EXPORTS TO THE US

REF: STATE 229031

1. THE EMBASSY IS SUBMITTING AS PARTIAL RESPONSE TO REFTEL INFORMATION DEVELOPED BY AMCONSUL BELEM. EMBASSY MET WITH CARLOS ALBERTO SANTOS, AS SUGGESTED BY NMFS, ON OCTOBER 14 AND IS STILL AWAITING HIS WRITTEN RESPONSE (HE INSISTED ON NEED TO CLEAR WITHIN GOB) WHICH WOULD PROVIDE TECHNICAL DATA FROM HIS OFFICE TO ITEMS 1.2 AND 1.3 OF REFTEL. WHEN THE LETTER IS RECEIVED EMBASSY WILL SUBMIT TEXT.

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF AMCONSUL BELEM'S SPOT SURVEY:

A. CATFISH CAUGHT IN THE BELEM AREA AND EXPORTED TO THE UNITED STATES ARE CALLED BY COMMON PORTUGUESE NAME PIRAMUTABA, AND BY ENGLISH COMMON NAME AMAZON BLUE CHANNEL CATFISH. SUDEPE REPORTS SCIENTIFIC NAME AS BRACHYPLASTYSTOMA A ZAILLANTI REPEAT BRACHYPLASTOMA ZAILLANTI.

B. CONSUL HAS VISITED A NUMBER OF CATFISH PROCESSING PLANTS. SANITARY CONDITIONS APPEAR TO HIM TO BE EXCELLENT.

C. INSPECTION AGENCY OF FEDERAL MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR INSPECTION OF PLANTS IN BELEM. INSPECTORS ARRIVE DAILY BEFORE PLANTS BEGIN OPERATIONS AND STAY

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ALL DAY LEAVING ONLY AFTER PLANT CLOSING IN THE EVENING.

INSPECTORS PAID BY BRAZILIAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WHICH IS REIMBURSED BY FISHING COMPANIES FOR INSPECTION EXPENSES INCURRED FOR INSPECTION ON THEIR FACILITIES. INDUSTRY SOURCES COMPLAIN THAT GOVERNMENT SANITARY STANDARDS ARE TOO HIGH AND TOO RIGOROUSLY ENFORCED.

D. CACEX REPORTS FISH EXPORTS FROM BELEM AS FOLLOWS:

1972	2,153,000 KG	US\$ 1,535,523
1973	3,631,000 KG	US\$ 2,784,384
1974	5,690,000 KG	US\$ 5,297,487

FIGURES FOR 1975 NOT YET AVAILABLE. FIGURES ARE FOR ALL TYPES OF FISH EXPORTED AND NOT JUST CATFISH. BREAKDOWN ON VARIOUS TYPES OF FISH EXPORTED OR COUNTRY TO WHICH THEY ARE EXPORTED IS NOT READILY AVAILABLE. INDUSTRY SOURCES HOWEVER REPORT THAT ALMOST ALL FISH EXPORTED ARE CATFISH AND THAT ALMOST ALL FISH EXPORTS GO TO THE US.

E. THE SUPERINTENDENCY FOR FISHING DEVELOPMENT (SUDEPE) AND INDUSTRY SOURCES REPORT THAT SMALL QUANTITIES OF CATFISH CALLED TAMOATA OR TAMUATA ARE EXPORTED TO SURINAM WHERE IT IS USED TO MAKE PATE. NAME IN TALKY-TALKY IS QUIQUI. (NATIVE LANGUAGES OF FISHERMEN IN AREA BETWEEN VENEZUELA AND BRAZIL WOULD INCLUDE SPANISH, ENGLISH, DUTCH, FRENCH, PORTUGUESE, HINDI, AND INDONESIAN. FISHERMEN COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER IN COMMON TRADE AND FISHING LANGUAGE OF THE AREA KNOWN AS TALKY-TALKY). UNABLE TO FIND ENGLISH OR SCIENTIFIC NAME FOR QUIQUI. SUDEPE PLANS TO PUSH EXPORT ON QUIQUI TO US IN NEAR FUTURE IF IT APPEARS THAT THERE IS MARKET.

F. SUDEPE ALSO REPORTS THAT THERE ARE PLANS TO EXPORT CATFISH MAPARA OR MAPURA (SCIENTIFIC NAME SILURIDAE) TO US IN NEAR FUTURE. UNABLE TO FIND ENGLISH OR TALKY-TALKY NAME FOR MAPURA.
JOHNSON

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Draft Date: 31 OCT 1975
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: STATE
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